GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1023
ANSWERED ON:14.07.2004
HARASSMENT OF INDIAN FISHERMEN BY SRI LANKA
Moorthy Shri A.K.

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that Indian fishermen are being harassed by Sri Lankan authorities often;

(b) if so, whether this matter has been taken up with the concerned Sri Lankan authorities; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Sri Lankan government thereto?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED)

(a) No incident of harassment of Indian fishermen by Sri Lankan authorities has come to notice recently.

(b)&(c) Both the Governments of India and Sri Lanka have agreed to deal with problems arising from fishermen straying into each other`s maritime zones, in a sympathetic and humane manner. These existing understandings are working well and apprehended Indian fishermen are released promptly by the Sri Lankan authorities.